VIETNAM COURIER

Feb. 16 1970

No. 256

7th Year

Information Weekly — E.O.: 46 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi — Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

In this issue:

Revolutionary Morality

PAGES 4-5

40th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIET NAM WORKERS' PARTY

February 3, 1930 — February 3, 1970

At a hydraulic construction site

MESSAGES OF GREETING

FROM THE CC OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION

ON behalf of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, we wish to convey to you and, through you, to all the communists and all the working people in Viet Nam our fraternal greetings and cordial congratulations on the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party, now the Viet Nam Workers' Party.

The Soviet communists clearly realize that the Viet Nam Workers' Party founded by Comrade Ho Chi Minh, an outstanding figure of the international communist movement and the national-liberation movement, has gone through a rough but glorious way of revolutionary struggle for freedom and independence, for democracy and socialism. The Viet Nam Workers' Party has become the recognized leader of the Vietnamese people and won great credit among the Communist and Workers' Parties in all countries.

The Viet Nam Workers' Party is celebrating its 40th founding anniversary at a time when the Vietnamese people are on their mettle to carry out their national task of greatest importance to defend the North, liberate the South and reunify the country. The communists of

(Continued page 7)

FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

ON the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on behalf of the Communist Party of China and the people of the whole country, extends the warmest fraternal greetings to the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Vietnamese people.

The Viet Nam Workers' Party, founded by President Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the Vietnamese people, has been squaring Marxism-Leninism with the reality of the Vietnamese revolution and leading it from success to success. In the past 40 years, the heroic Vietnamese people, under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, have waged heroic and tenacious struggles against French colonialists and Japanese fascists, overthrown their reactionary rules, and established the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Against the US imperialists' large-scale war of aggression against Viet Nam, the Viet Nam Workers' Party has been leading the Vietnamese people to continue and bring into full play the tradition of revolutionary fight and revolutionary heroism, display under extremely rigorous conditions the matchless

(Continued page 7)

North Viet Nam

NEW DISTINCTIONS CREATED

IN implementation of Article 63 of the DRVN Constitution and a resolution passed by the DRVN National Assembly on January 15, 1970, President Ton Duc Thang has signed an ordinance creating the State titles of "Labour Hero" and "Hero of the People's Armed Forces."

The institution of these titles was to grant official recognition to the great services recorded by the people and people's armed forces in production, combat and other fields, and give fuller scope to revolutionary heroism, step up the patriotic emulation movement to build socialism, defend the Fatherland and defeat US aggression.

* * *

181st ANNIVERSARY OF DONG DA VICTORY

A solemn ceremony was organized on Feb. 9 in Hanoi to commemorate the 181st anniversary of the victory won at Dong Da over the aggressive army of the Chings who ruled over China at that time.

In the second half of the 18th century, a peasants' rebellion took place which shook the Le Dynasty to the root. The Le king took refuge at the Ching Court and returned to the country in 1788 in the van of a 200,000-strong Mongolian expeditionary force. From Hue, Quang Trung, the leader of the peasants' insurrection, rushed northward and cut the aggressive army to pieces in a lightning and devastating campaign. The bulk of the enemy forces was crushed early in 1789 at Dong Da, the gates of the capital city of Thang Long, now Hanoi: once for all the long-standing ambition of the Chinese feudalists to subjugate our people was shattered.

Historian Van Tan took the floor at the observances and pointed out that that victory had added lustre to the tradition of indomitable struggle of the Vietnamese people and brought out in relief Quang Trung's exceptionally brilliant military art. He remarked that the present Viet Nam Workers' Party had the credit of continuing this tradition of revolutionary heroism in the light of Marxism-Leninism and this was one of the major reasons of our successes over US aggression.

* * *

A US Pilotless Plane Downed Northeast of Hanoi

PURSUING their provocations and violations of the sovereignty of the DRVN, the US aggressors sent a pilotless spying plane over Ha Bac, a province about thirty kilometres northeast of Hanoi. The plane was grounded by the local AA batteries. Thus since August 5, 1964, date of US war escalation into the North, the total of US aircraft downed in the DRVN has run to

3,332

AMERICAN PILOTS AND QUANG BINH CHILDREN

IN about forty sorties, American aircraft launched on Jan. 28, 1970 a large-scale attack on the districts of Minh Hoa (Quang Binh province) and Huong Khe (Ha Tinh province) under the pretext of retaliation for the fact that American spy planes operating over North Viet Nam had been given a hard time by Vietnamese AA batteries. So only the North Vietnamese were to blame and the Americans had the right to fly spy missions over any country without the latter being allowed to organize its self-defence. This act of war was at utter variance with the profession of peace made by Mr Nixon's representatives at the Paris Conference.

The US war of aggression has been going on in South Viet Nam under the new formula of "Vietnamization". North Viet Nam's air space was frequently violated throughout the first year of Nixon administration. Quang Binh province was, for a whole year, the target of relentless US air strikes, which inflicted on the people heavy casualties and material losses.

Some figures:

January 1969: from 25 to 30 (the first ten days of Nixon's office) 27 air raids were flown on Dan Hoa area, the Mu Gia mountain pass and along the roads in Tuyen Hoa district.

February: 25 air attacks, including B.52's, west of Quang Binh province, resulting in 12 dead, 22 wounded among the civilian population.

March: Bombardments of Truong Thuy (Le Thuy district) and Tuyen Hoa causing 39 casualties.

April: B.52 strikes against Tuyen Hoa, Minh Hoa (April 6), dropping of CBUs on Le Ninh co-operative, Le Thuy (April 7) and Dong Son townlet (April 30).

May: Explosive bombs and CBUs dropped on Thanh Trach (Bo Trach) and Quang Hung (May 14), B.52 bombing of Minh Hoa, Tuyen Hoa.

June: Explosive bombs and CBUs on Le Thuy, Bo Trach.

July: B.52s and other supersonic jets against the area west of Quang Binh.

August: Explosive bombs, CBUs, rockets on Tuyen Hoa.

September, October, November: raids on western part of Quang Binh province.

December: Explosive bombs and delayed-action bombs on Quang Binh province.

Added to these 1969 figures are tens of thousands of delayed-action bombs, explosive bombs, CBUs, magnetic bombs which continue to sow death among the inhabitants in the remotest corners of the country.

Thus, "cessation of bombing" in no way means, as some would believe, that bombing have come to a stop. The same Mr Nixon who sends his men to wreak death and desolation on North Viet Nam is distressed because American airmen are listed as missing after being downed in North Viet Nam. He is anxious about their fate and so indignant as to alert world opinion.

In December 1969, Vo Thi Thuyet, a young woman of Quang Binh province, sent to Hanoi for treatment her two-year-old boy Vo Van Than who received on May 14, 1969 two small steel-pellets in his thigh and skull during an air raid on Quang Hung village, Quang Trach district, Quang Binh province. His father, elder sister, grand parents and cousin were killed. The only survivors are his mother, then absent from home, and himself saved from death because of the rapidity and efficiency of first-aid cares.

As the treatment of the after-effects of his wounds required delicate surgical intervention, he was sent to Hanoi hospital.

The story is quite simple: on May 14, 1969, at 9.30 a.m. two American fighter-bombers flew over the area and suddenly dropped bombs, razing 6 houses to the ground, and causing 19 fatalities, 27 wounded, belonging to 26 families.

"I wonder what was the motivation of that bombardment," an *AFP* correspondent asked Mme Thuyet.

"Well, it was harvest time. That morning, all the able-bodied men were out in the fields, and this probably attracted the attention of American pilots."

"What for?"

"To sow terror, death, devastation, create new difficulties to the civilians, and shake their resolve to keep up the struggle."

This was the unavowed, but obvious, goal of American aircraft, and yet Mr Nixon complains that he is left without news regarding his airmen downed and taken prisoner in North Viet Nam!

A most simple means to end Mr Nixon's anxiety about the fate of his men is to stop violating the air space of the DRVN, an independent and sovereign state.

MAI HO

54th Plenary Session of Paris Conference on Viet Nam (Feb. 12, 1970)

NGUYEN MINH VY. The Nixon administration should give up its illusory hope for a military victory through Vietnamization.

AT the 54th session of the Paris Conference, Mr Nguyen Minh Vy, representative of the DRVN government Delegation, scored the Nixon administration's protestations of its "will for peace" as a smokescreen for its attempt to secure a "position of strength" on the battlefield conducive to a "position of strength" at the conference table. On the battlefield, it has been frenziedly stepping up the war, repeatedly mounting "mopping-up" operations and bombing raids everywhere and implementing the criminal "accelerated pacification" program. At the conference table, instead of conducting serious negotiations on the basis of logic and sensible proposals of the DRVN government and PRG of the RSVN, it has been insisting on "mutual withdrawal" of troops and claiming a premium for the cessation of US aggression. Furthermore, it has been seeking by all means to maintain the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique installed by itself and to get for it the organizing of elections likely to be rigged to put in power a new clique of US placemen. At present, Mr Nguyen Minh Vy stressed, the Nixon administration has downgraded the conference in order to eventually torpedo it. Lately it has given priority to the "Vietnamization" of the war and relegated the Paris talks to the second rank.

The DRVN spokesman concluded: "It is important that the Nixon administration should have a more realistic approach to the Viet nam problem, give up its fantastic hope for a military victory through 'Vietnamization' and its scheme of aggression in Viet Nam to talk in earnest and arrive with other parties to the Paris Conference at a peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam war on the basis of genuine respect for the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination."

TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more efficiently in future.

"VIETNAMIZATION," said Melvin Laird, "means the progressive transfer to the South Vietnamese of responsibility for all aspects of the war and management of their affairs: stronger government, stronger economy, stronger military force, stronger police for internal security."

What has become of all that?

60,000 GIs have left South Viet Nam and in his Dec. 15, 1969 speech, Nixon announced a new 50,000 troops cutback till April 15, 1970. The American units stationed on the edge of the Mekong Delta and along Highway No.9 are replaced by puppet troops. Here and there, US bases have been handed to the latter in the full glare of publicity. However, at present, nearly 500,000 GIs and over 60,000 foreign mercenaries still remain in South Viet Nam and their strength will be maintained at wellnigh half-a-million by next April 15. The US expeditionary forces and mercenary troops still make up the main force protecting the puppet army which on paper totals 700,000 men and suffers 10,000 desertions per month on the average. Wherever the puppet troops fight in the frontline, they are badly mauled and have to call GIs to their rescue. Their losses rise from 1 to 3 while American casualties are not kept down.

On the financial plane, the war burden continues to weigh more and more heavily on the shoulders of the American taxpayers. The puppet 1969 budget showed a deficit of over 50 billion piastres out of an aggregate 130 billion, 118 billion of which (or one billion dollars) accruing from US aid. This means that there is no question of shifting financial responsibility.

Likewise, there is no transfer of diplomatic responsibility. At the Paris Conference, the Saigon delegation made a poor show as US confederate. Pham Dang Lam did not need to disappear from the political scene like Cabot Lodge and Lawrence Walsh for the Conference to be "downgraded." His return to Saigon to receive fresh instructions was hardly noticed by the press.

Was there at least shifting of responsibility for war crimes? Nixon laid the blame for the Son My atrocity on the Democratic administration. But all the crimes perpetrated for a year have borne his stamp: wholesale massacres at Ba Lang An, Kong H'Ring camp, in the "Sea Tiger" operation in 12 villages of Thang Binh district and 5 villages of Que Son district, Quang Nam province, over 1.2 million tons of bombs dropped and an unheard-of intensification of chemical warfare. Who would believe that Thieu could give orders to B.52s to go into action and to the US Air Force to fly 11,980 reconnaissance missions over the DRVN in 1969 or a monthly average of 1,000 sorties, the double of the 1968 figure?

THREE FACTORS OF "VIETNAMIZATION"

IF there is no serious shifting of responsibility, it is simply because none of the three factors hoped for by Laird have been achieved.

The Thieu-Ky-Khiem government has been proclaiming from the housetops that it is strong and controls 95 per cent (why not 100 per cent?) of the South Viet Nam people. A military (Khiem) has replaced a civilian (Tran Van Huong) as Prime Minister and dismissals have been numerous of field officers in the puppet army and officers at the head of provinces and districts. Why, then, on December 20, 1969, that "strong" government deemed it necessary to masterminds a raid on its own Parliament? Saigon MPs are supposed to enjoy constitutional protection but they are not immune from extra-constitutional assault and battery. As has been seen, the government unleashed its men, paid 500 piastres each, against the recalcitrant "Lower House" as a Christmas gift! This "rebellion" of "parliamentarians" has its root in the ultra-fascization of the regime and "austerity" taxes levied by Thieu allegedly to stop inflation and decline of purchasing power of the currency; and all this will probably boomerang on the comprador bourgeoisie, the class of these MPs who do not have the same vested interests in this operation as the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique.

With regard to the puppet army it saw its establishment beefed up in 1969 by the pressganging of all able-bodied men from 17 to 55 living in the areas still under the US and quislings' control. Thieu transferred militiamen to civil guard units and the civil guards to the regular army and the trick was done. The pay-sheets of the "Republican divisions" lengthen. On the other hand, the Yankees supply the armament: 700,000 M. 16s, automatic guns, tanks, ordnance pieces, aircraft, river craft and coast-guard ships, etc.

But what is the combat effectiveness of such an army? The Philadelphia Quakers were of the opinion that "the South Vietnamese forces (puppet army) will never successfully take over the military burden now carried by the US. It is not hardware or training that is lacking in Saigon's armies. It is will, the one ingredient the US will never be able to provide. Thieu's soldiers have no heart for this struggle and have not had any for years. Indeed one of the most striking phenomena of the war is the contrast between the contending forces: a Vietnamese dressed in the peasant garb of the NLF is one of the world's most formidable fighting men, the same in the uniform of Saigon is one of the world's poorest. Why? Because one believes he fights to drive the foreigners from his soil while the other fights only to sustain the power of a corrupt military clique. Under these circumstances any hope of simultaneously defeating the NFL and withdrawing US troops has no chance of success."

The Saigon puppet army is the offspring of the Bao Dai army of which the French correspondent Robert Guillain wrote, "The majority of Bao Dai's subjects lack fighting spirit. The army in which they enlist often against their will is unreliable, so unreliable that our staffs are now afraid that it would desintegrate by whole units." (*Le Monde*, May 30 and 31, 1954).

Of course, US methods differ from the French ones. Neo-colonialism is out to stir up the class hatred but this involves only a small minority of high-ranking officers. Soldiers and cadres in lower echelons suffer like the rest of the people from terror and repression and the present "accelerated pacification". They have their villages burnt and their families hit by American bombs and shells. Moreover desertions and mutinies as well as combat fatigue have emasculated the puppet army to the point that the 18th Division is put out of action for the time being and the 7th Division is far from being in fighting trim.

Unlike this army, the PLAF grow stronger day by day and prove to be ready for a long war and all kinds of operations from commando to large-unit combined actions. They gave a sound beating to half-a-million puppet troops officered by twenty thousand American advisors in the "special war". They have held in check the half-a-million strong US expeditionary force supported by over half-a-million puppet soldiers and mercenaries from US satellite countries. How can the puppet troops confront them even with the support of from 150,000 to 200,000 GIs?

On "Vietnamization"

Transfer of Responsibility?

DO XUAN SANG

PLAF men have overpowered a US artillery position in Quang Tri (South Viet Nam)

A BLANK CHEQUE

IN his state of the Union message, Nixon sounded an optimistic note: the prospects of a "Pax Americana" were brighter than a year ago. Though he did not do so explicitly he wanted to pay tribute to his "Vietnamization" policy. In his Dec. 15, 1969 speech he quoted the British General Thompson said to be a "counter-insurgency" expert. However that general had served the US aggressors in South Viet Nam under the Democratic administration and his help, how valuable it might be, did not prevent the "special war" from fizzling out. Nixon is certainly blinded by his ambitions of neo-colonialist conquest. These induce him to believe in the feasibility of replacing the GI by a puppet soldier and negotiating from a "position of strength" while he is forced to pull US troops out of South Viet Nam.

Time will bring him to his senses; for the time being he continues to draw a blank cheque. The American people are obliged to endorse it with their blood and money. It is therefore up to public opinion in the US and the world to appraise the "Vietnamization" of the war at its intrinsic value. It will see some illusions beside a lot of lies and bluffs. "Vietnamization" boils down to continuation of US armed aggression, a big swindle against the American people and an intensification of war crimes.

REVOLUTIONARY MORALITY

MARXISM-LENINISM is a science and at the same time an instrument for analysis, and a method of action, organization, explanation and construction — construction of a new society and a new man. The Viet Nam Workers' Party, a new-type party, has constantly been laying emphasis on the necessity of fostering and educating militants, new men. Revolutionary science and action would be lopsided should a revolutionary morality equal to the task to fulfil is lacking. We give below some texts dealing with the ethics indispensable to all militants.

ABOUT REVOLUTIONARY VIRTUES

TO carry out revolution to transform the old society into a new one is a very glorious but also very heavy task, a very complex, protracted and arduous effort. To carry a heavy load over a long distance, one must be strong. If a revolutionary is to accomplish his glorious revolutionary task, he must possess *revolutionary virtues.*

Born and brought up in the old society, everyone of us bears in him some traces of its backward ideology, habits, etc. The worst and most dangerous spiritual legacy of the old society is *individualism.* Individualism is the opposite of a revolutionary virtue. If it is allowed to survive, even to a small extent, it will develop at the first opportunity, prevail over the revolutionary virtues and prevent us from putting all our hearts and souls in the revolutionary cause.

Individualism is something very cunning and perfidious. It is apt to entice people downhill. And everybody knows that downhill is easier than climbing uphill. Hence, it is doubly dangerous.

To get rid of the noxious influence of the old society, to forge our revolutionary virtues, we must try hard to learn to change ourselves into new men and make continual progress. If we do not strive to go forward, then we shall retrograde and lag behind. And if we retrogress and lag behind, we shall be discarded by the progressive society.

Not only at school and in classes can we learn, train and reform ourselves. In any revolutionary activity we can and must learn and remould ourselves. The time of clandestine activity, the insurrection and the resistance, and the present shaping of North Viet Nam in its step-by-step advance to socialism and the national reunification effort are all very good crucibles for us to forge our revolutionary virtues.

With revolutionary virtues, we shall not be daunted by, or waver before, or shrink from, difficulties, hardships or failures. For the common interests of the Party, the Revolution, the working class, the nation and the whole mankind, we must not hesitate to sacrifice all our personal interests. We must be ready, when necessary, to lay down even our lives, without regret. That is a very clear and noble manifestation of revolutionary virtues.

In our Party, Comrades Tran Phu, Ngo Gia Tu, Le Hong Phong, Nguyen Van Cu, Hoang Van Thu, Nguyen Thi Minh Khai, and many others have made the supreme sacrifice for the people and the Party, set brilliant examples of revolutionary virtues, of unqualified devotion to public interests and self-denial for everyone of us to follow.

A man having revolutionary virtues always keeps his austerity, his simplicity and modesty even when in propitious circumstances. " To be concerned about common welfare before others and enjoy comforts after others ", to be concerned about how to best accomplish his task and not to be jealous of others' material advantages, not to expect high rewards for one's record, not to turn bureaucratic, self-conceited or corrupted : those are other manifestations of revolutionary virtues.

In short, revolutionary virtues consist of the following :

— Firm resolve to struggle all one's life for the Party and the revolution. This is the most essential quality.

— To put all one's mind in one's work for the Party, strictly observe Party discipline, satisfactorily implement the Party line and policies.

— To place the interests of the Party and of the working people above and before personal interests. To serve the people with utmost dedication. To fight with self-denial for the Party and the people, to be exemplary in all actions.

To study with industriousness Marxism-Leninism, constantly strive to improve one's ideological standard and one's style of work through self-criticism and criticism in order to keep pace with one's comrades.

Every revolutionary must grasp this point : our Party is the most advanced and the most close-knit organisation of the working class, the leader of the working class and working people. At present, the working class in our country is not yet a large one but its ranks are swelling with every passing day. In the future, agricultural co-ops will be set up in all places, the countryside will be supplied with more and more machinery and our farmers will become workers. Our intellectuals will grow more proficient in manual work and the difference between intellectuals and workers will also be gradually blotted out. Industry in our country will expand. As a result, the contingent of workers will also increase continually, so will their strength, and the working class has a very great and very bright future. It is transforming the world while transforming itself.

A revolutionary must be well aware of this and firmly adhere to the position of the working class in order to militate wholeheartedly for socialism and communism, for the working class and the working people as a whole. *To possess revolutionary virtues means to be absolutely loyal to the Party and the people.*

(Excerpts from a speech by President HO CHI MINH in 1958)

SOLIDARITY MEANS STRENGTH

EVERYONE of you must be aware that though in 1945 our Party had only less than 5,000 members, it led the whole nation to carry out successfully the August Revolution. In 1946, its membership ran to nearly 20,000 members. Yet it steered the entire people's war of resistance to victory. These great achievements were possible thanks to our Party's unity and one-mindedness, to our people's cohesion and identity of views.

Solidarity means strength. It is the key to success. Our Party is a revolutionary Party with Marxism-Leninism as its tenets. All Party cadres and members must place the interests of the Party, the working class and the people above all.

Our Party is a Party occupying the leading position. All Party cadres and members, whatever their ranks and assignments, must unite in a single bloc to fulfil the tasks entrusted them by the Party. It is like a clock in which there are different parts of machinery but all of them must be geared together if it is to work well. If we want to achieve real unity, we must enforce genuine democracy within the Party. We must regularly practise frank criticism and sincere self-criticism to help one another correct our shortcomings, improve our good points and progress together. In the process of the revolution, to make judicious decisions and to commit mistakes is a matter of course. Naturally, the positive aspect must be the main one and the negative aspect must be the secondary one. Whenever there are mistakes we must help one another to resolutely correct them and enthusiastically march forward together.

Among Party members and Party cadres, we must resolutely get rid of all prejudices. To harbour prejudices against one another is a bad and harmful habit. Prejudices give rise to mutual distrust, rivalry and jealousy. They bring about lack of coordination, hamstring our revolutionary work and even cause failures.

We must achieve identity of mind, unity of action and sentimental oneness. We must proceed from the same appraisal of the situation and tasks and from our heightened sense of responsibility to the Party and people to strengthen our solidarity and one-mindedness which is essential.

We must overcome individualism. It is the source of deplorable things such as squabbles and rivalry between Party cadres and between Party members, lack of mutual esteem, lack of mutual assistance and lack of close co-operation among them. Individualism also leads to conservatism, bureaucratism, corruption, waste, fear of difficulties and hardships, passiveness and pessimism before difficulties.

The pressure and complexity of our work is growing incessantly. Our society is progressing continually. Accordingly, the standard of our Party cadres and members must also be raised unceasingly if we are to accomplish our tasks. Our Party cadres and members therefore must strive hard to improve their political, cultural and professional standards.

The provincial Party Committee must, for its part, take care of the grassroots organisations of the Party. It must see to the satisfactory consolidation of the Party cells. With good Party cells, everything will run smoothly.

(Excerpts from President HO CHI MINH's speech at the Party Congress of Ha Bac province, October 1963)

INDUSTRY AND THRIFT IN NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION

OUR country is still poor. To have a life of plenty we must rely on ourselves and work hard. We must zealously engage in production. Work is a sacred duty, *our means of livelihood, our source of happiness.* In our society, there is no base profession. Only the lazy, the hangers-on should be ashamed. A cook or a dustman shares the same honour with a teacher or an engineer if he fulfils his tasks. Only he who fears difficulties and hardships, he who wants to live in clover without having to lift a finger, is despicable because he is not a socialist-minded man.

Everybody must observe self-imposed labour discipline.

The youths, in particular, must take the lead and zealously put into practice the *" Be present wherever needed, and come forward for every tough job"* watchword.

Any of the material wealth produced costs so much sweat and labour. We can build socialism only by increasing production and practising thrift. Production without thrift is like a pocket with holes in it. We must therefore look after public property. *To embezzle or waste* the property of the State, of the community and of the people is an act of burglary that everybody must abhor and strive to eliminate. We must prize manpower which is our most valuable asset. We must see to the health of the people and make the most radical use of the people's labour force.

The Party cadres and members must show all the greater sense of responsibility as leaders of men, must set examples of " industry, thrift, integrity and public-mindedness ". They must not take even a penny or a paddy grain of the State and the people. They must combat bureaucracy and commandism which lie at the root of corruption and waste. They must carefully plan every job : " Time is money ". They must resolutely get rid of the habit of holding endless meetings which only waste our time and warm our health without any positive results.

To make quick and vigorous progress is a socialist law. To produce many high-grade goods quickly and economically, calls for revolutionary zeal. But there must be also know-how and solid scientific knowledge.

Each working people must develop the spirit of daring to think and daring to do, strive to place himself in the front ranks and become an advanced worker. To our workers, peasants and brain workers must be brought home the fact that we have the necessary strength, courage and intelligence to build a new life for ourselves. Provided we have the spirit of being the masters of our destiny, and the collective spirit, provided we observe discipline and continually learn hard to improve our cultural and technical standards, provided we display inventiveness and always try to dig into the new and to learn, support and carry out innovations, nothing is impossible for us.

Such a frame of mind is all the more necessary for the Party cadres and members. We must discard such wrong tendencies as : complacency with initial successes, conservatism, satisfaction with a few experiences, self-conceit over a small amount of knowledge, contempt of the masses, scepticism about minor innovations of the masses, laziness and reluctance to adopt new ideas, etc.

Our working people are provided with abundant experiences and creativeness, our country is endowed with a wealth of material resources. With our determination and the assistance of the fraternal countries, it is certain that we are in a position to turn our country into a prosperous and strong one, and achieve a happy life to our people and catch up with the fraternal countries.

Let us march forward quickly, vigorously and steadily to socialism! To march quickly and vigorously does not mean to be reckless and careless. We must realistically proceed step by step and steadily. We must grasp the law of development of the revolution. We must take into careful consideration all facts and work out practical measures. Our plans must be solid and balanced. Let us not indulge in wishful thinking. We must oppose subjectivism, and the bureaucratic, perfunctory style of work. We must devise a method based on study and investigation in each specific task as well as in working out any policy of the Party and State.

(Excerpts from President HO CHI MINH's speech at the conference to discuss the preparations for the political study in Spring 1961).

TRAN PHU'S LAST WORDS

TRAN Phu was born in Tung Anh village (now Duc Son), Duc Tho district, Ha Tinh province. His father was a Confucean scholar very much frustrated by the unsuccesses of the patriotic movement then in a blind alley.

Together with Ho Chi Minh and several other comrades, Tran Phu put an end to this state of things and charted the path to victory for the Vietnamese revolution. The Political Thesis drawn up by him, which elaborated on the Revolutionary Path written by Ho Chi Minh, was passed at the First Meeting of the Central Committee held in Hong Kong (October 1930). At this very meeting, Tran Phu was appointed first Secretary-General of the Party.

When a pupil in a Hue school, Tran Phu was an A1 student and one of the founders of the Association for the Advancement of Youths which helped its members learn, school themselves or read progressive publications.

After graduating with high honours from the Hue junior middle school, Tran Phu taught at the Cao Xuan Duc school in Vinh while engaged in agitation for the liberation of the country among the students and workers. He was one of the founders of the Phuc Viet Association (later named Hung Nam Association, then Party of Revolutionary Youths). It was at that time that Le Paria and the name of Nguyen Ai Quoc (Ho Chi Minh's alias) — its editor — sowed new seeds in Tran Phu's mind. In 1926, the Party of Revolutionary Youths sent him to Canton to discuss the merging of revolutionary forces at home and abroad with the Association of Revolutionary Young Comrades. Tran Phu then met Nguyen Ai Quoc and came to know the Revolutionary Path. He was admitted in the League of Revolutionary Youths. Back home, he contributed to the reorganization of the Party of Revolutionary Youths along the line and set-up of the Association of Revolutionary Young Comrades. In Spring 1927, Tran Phu was sent to the Eastern University in the Soviet Union. In 1928, he participated in the Sixth Plenum of the Communist International.

Though sentenced to death in absentia by the Hue Court on orders of the French imperialists, Tran Phu returned home to carry on his activities in 1929, after finishing his training. In April 1930, he was appointed member of the Provisional Central Committee of the Party. He acquainted himself with the concrete situation in Thai Binh, Hai Phong, Hongai, Cam Pha .. then went to Hanoi and drew up the first Political Thesis of the Party in the light of the Resolutions passed by the Sixth Plenum of the Communist International, the Revolutionary Path and the Summary Political Line and Tactics by Ho Chi Minh.

One of those who made an important contribution to the elaboration of the line which was to lead the Vietnamese revolution to success, Tran Phu was also a staunch fighter who strove hard for the implementation of this line. Under the leadership of the Party Central Committee with himself as Secretary-General, the Vietnamese revolution guided by a judicious line and helped by appropriate forms of struggle gained considerable momentum and culminated in the Nghe-Tinh insurrection. This was the first experience by our Party in seizing and holding power. Arrested by the French imperialists, Tran Phu unflinchingly preserved all the peerless qualities of a Communist leader and set a shining example for all Party members.

" Who did you work in the Party Central Committee with ? " asked the French judge.

" I worked alone. "

" How many members does the Central Committee consist of ? "

" One man. "

" What nonsense! A Party Central Committee is certainly composed of many members and you surely were in touch with many people. "

" Yes. Our Central Committee has many members, and I was in touch with many comrades and fellow-countrymen. But I was connected with them because of my Party and patriotic work and I am not going to tell you their names. " Before dying from injuries resulting from the colonialists' torture, Tran Phu galvanized his mates with these last words of his : " Keep up your fighting spirit! "

The infamous Poulo Condor penal island (South Viet Nam) where the French colonialists kept political prisoners (in the photo). In it are now detained dissenters from US-puppet regime

40th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE VN WORKERS' PARTY ★ FEB. 3, 1930 — FEB. 3, 1970 ★ 40th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE VN WORKERS' PARTY

MESSAGES OF GREETING

(EXCERPTS)

From the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea

THE Viet Nam Workers' Party which had been steeled in the crucible of the protracted and arduous revolutionary struggle, has grown and strengthened as the architect of all the achievements of the Vietnamese people and a reliable member of the international communist movement, and its international prestige is rising higher as the days go by.

We rejoice, as over our own, at all the brilliant successes won by the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the fraternal Vietnamese people under its correct leadership and warmly hail them.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people will in the future, too, actively support and encourage the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Vietnamese people in their war of resistance against US imperialism and for national salvation, for liberation of the South, the defence of the North and the reunification of the country and always march forward and join hands with the Vietnamese people in the effort against the US imperialist aggressors, our common enemy.

From the CC of the CP of Cuba

THE Viet Nam Workers' Party and your immortal leader Ho Chi Minh are associated with the great successes won by the valiant Vietnamese people in the struggle against the savage aggression of US imperialism.

Our people and Communist Party regard the Vietnamese people's cause as our own cause...

We firmly believe that your struggle will be crowned with complete victory, that the aggressors will sustain most ingominious defeat. Your victory will be that of all nations.

Viet Nam is standing in the forefront of the struggle against imperialism. We once again express to you our resolute support.

From the CC of the Polish United Workers' Party

THE 40 years of the work of your Party, organized and hardened in battle under the command of the great son of Viet Nam, great patriot and internationalist, Ho Chi Minh, is a splendid chapter in the history of your nation and a fine example of patriotism, internationalism, and fidelity to the ideals of Marxism-Leninism.

Our Party and the whole Polish nation which knows well the price of the struggle for the freedom of the Motherland fully supports the heroic resistance of your Party and nation against the barbarous aggression of American imperialism.

With the deep feeling of socialist internationalism, we can assure you that, as in the past, we will continue to develop our co-operation in all fields and further strengthen the combat solidarity and fraternal friendship between our two Parties for the good of the common cause — the unity of the international communist and workers' movement.

From the CC of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany

THE Viet Nam Workers' Party under hard conditions is at present leading ahead the Vietnamese people in the establisment of the socialist social order in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. It has been organising and also guiding the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people against US aggression, for its freedom and independence. The brave and freedom-loving Vietnamese people may be sure of the solidarity and support rendered by all anti-imperialist and peace-loving forces of the world... The Socialist Unity Party of Germany wholeheartedly supports the just struggle of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and of the entire Vietnamese people. It will accord it in future all political and material aid until the Vietnamese people achieve total victory.

From the CC of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party

IN the past 40 years, the Party of the Vietnamese communists organized and led by Comrade Ho Chi Minh — the able leader of the Vietnamese people, and outstanding fighter of the international communist movement — has recorded tremendous successes...

Today, under the leadership of your Party, the Vietnamese people are continuing their valiant fight against the criminal aggression by US imperialism. In this action, the Vietnamese people and the Viet Nam Workers' Party enjoy active support from the other socialist countries and the international communist movement and the solidarity of the whole progressive mankind.

Once again we assure you of the full support of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and our entire people.

From the CC of the Czechoslovak CP

WE highly prize the fighting traditions of the Indo-Chinese Communist Party, which from the very beginning stood in the forefront of the unyielding struggle of the Indo-Chinese peoples against the French colonialists then the Japanese occupiers.

Likewise after the declaration of independence of Viet Nam, the Indo-Chinese Communist Party continued to lead the valiant fight to reach the genuine goals of the struggle for national liberation and has achieved substantial successes.

The Viet Nam Workers' Party which is the bearer of the revolutionary banner of the Indo-Chinese Communist Party, has been the promoter and organizer of the struggle of the Vietnamese people for the complete liberation of their country and its socialist construction.

Loyal to the principles of proletarian internationalism, Czechoslovakia will continue to grant all-round support and aid to the Vietnamese people who, we are convinced, will win final victory.

From the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party

THE founding of the Viet Nam Workers' Party was a great turning point in the history of the Vietnamese revolution. In the struggle against feudalism and imperialism for freedom and national independence, democracy and socialism, the Viet Nam Workers' Party has rallied all the patriotic and progressive forces in a national united front under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, and has been recognized as eminent leader of the Vietnamese people.

The Bulgarian communists and people as a whole once again express their full solidarity with the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the brother Vietnamese people and wish to assist the Vietnamese people in the building of socialism and fight against the US aggressors for national reunification.

From the CC of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party

THE Mongolian communists fully realize the glorious path the Viet Nam Workers' Party has travelled in its struggle against the colonialist imperialists, for the independence, freedom and happiness of the Vietnamese people. Our Party and the entire Mongolian people are determined to continue supporting, to the best of their ability, the sacred effort of the Vietnamese people to defend the fruits of socialism and to completely drive the aggressors out of Viet Nam so as to peacefully reunify the country.

From the CC of the Rumanian Communist Party

THE Rumanian communists and our entire people greatly rejoice at the important successes recorded by the Vietnamese labouring people under the leadership of their vanguard Party, in socialist construction in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. We wish to reiterate on this occasion our international solidarity with the valiant struggle of the Vietnamese people against imperialist aggression to defend national independence, sovereignty and unity.

The Rumanian Communist Party and the Rumanian Socialist Republic call for the total withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam in order to make it possible to set up a coalition government so that South Viet Nam can progress along the road of democracy and for respect for the sacred right of the Vietnamese people to decide themselves their own destiny without foreign interference.

From the CC of the Party of Labour of Albania

THE Party of Labour of Albania and the whole of the Albanian people have a firm confidence in the final victory of the fraternal Vietnamese people. They sincerely rejoice at the great successes the Vietnamese people have achieved on the front of combat and construction and express staunch militant solidarity with, and unreserved support for, their selfless struggle against US imperialism and for the reunification of their homeland.

From the CC of the Japanese Communist Party

YOUR Party's activities and achievements over the past forty years have greatly contributed to the cause of liberation of Asian nations, and of peace and social progress in the world, and have been greatly inspiring the world peoples and the Japanese people as well...

The Japanese Communist Party is determined to make still bigger efforts in militating for the complete, unconditional and speedy withdrawal of US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam so that the Vietnamese people may settle their own internal affairs. It will also give a further push to the struggle of the Japanese people against the Japanese government's participation in the US war of aggression, at the same time will try its best to strengthen the international united front to support the Vietnamese people and oppose the US imperialists' aggression.

From the CC of the Italian Communist Party

ON the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of your glorious Party, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party, we send you our warm and fraternal wishes. We will always stand shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people in their heroic struggle till victory.

All Italian democratic forces pledge ever stronger support to your righteous political fight and actions against aggressive imperialism.

(Messages from other Parties will be published in our next issue)

PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG SENDS CONDOLENCES to LORD BERTRAND RUSSELL's Widow

Premier Pham Van Dong has sent the following condolences to Lady Russell:

"WE have learnt with a great shock and profound grief the demise of Lord Bertrand Russell, a world famous philosopher, a great champion of noble causes, and a great friend of the Vietnamese people.

"The International Tribunal — named after him — to judge the odious war crimes committed by the American aggressors against the Vietnamese people, was typical of its promoter's exaltedness of feeling and at the same time was a voice of the conscience of the progressive and peace- and justice-loving humanity.

"On behalf of the Vietnamese people and in my own name, I pay hommage to the memory of Lord Bertrand Russell and convey to you as well as to his relatives and friends my heartfelt sympathy."

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Refutes New US Slanders against DRVN on Laos

(Full text of February 6 Statement)

US President Nixon on January 30, 1970 again levelled slanders against the DRVN with a view to covering the US acts of aggression in Laos.

Dancing to President Nixon's tune, Laotian Prince Souvanna Phouma proposed on January 31 the so-called "neutralisation of the Plain of Jars area" as a condition for the cessation of the bombing of this area by the United States.

As known to everybody, the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos has recognized the neutrality of the Kingdom of Laos. It is the US government which has been systematically sabotaging this agreement, undermining the neutrality of Laos, has masterminded its stooges to overthrow the Laotian national coalition government and set up a pro-US government in Vientiane as a tool for its aggression in Laos.

Since his inauguration, Mr. Nixon has not ceased stepping up very savage air attacks against the liberated zone of Laos and has even committed US combat troops to Laos. The US has hurled troops of the Vientiane administration and thousands of Thailand mercenaries directly officered by US officers into brazen encroaching raids on the Plain of Jars, Xieng Khuang province, and a number of other places under the control of the Laotian Patriotic Front and the Laotian patriotic neutralist forces.

Increased US armed intervention in Laos has aroused deep concern among public opinion and many US political figures who fear another Viet Nam in Laos.

President Nixon's slanders and the so-called proposal for the "neutralisation of the Plain of Jars area" by Prince Souvanna Phouma are part of a new smear campaign against the DRVN aimed at diverting public attention from the Nixon administration's intensification of its aggressive war in Laos and sabotage of Laos' neutrality. It is also intended to deceive public opinion in the US and the world which are strongly critical of the US and its lackeys' attempts to encroach on the liberated zone in Laos and are demanding that the US end the bombing as well as its aggression in Laos.

MESSAGES OF GREETING

FROM THE CC OF THE CPSU

(Continued from page 1)

the Soviet Union highly appreciate the role and activities of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the inspirer and organizer of this effort. The valiant achievements of the Vietnamese sons and daughters and the support to their just cause from the other socialist countries and all the progressive forces in the world once again show that wherever there is close unity and cohesion, imperialism cannot impose its will on the people. There is no doubt that the US imperialists will have to quit Viet Nam, that the Vietnamese people will win.

The Soviet people consider it its international duty to give a multiform assistance to their Vietnamese brothers in their sacred struggle. The CPSU and the Government of the USSR voice their full support to the position of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the DRVN Government on the settlement of the Viet Nam question. This conforms to the fundamental interests of the Vietnamese people and the other countries of the Indochinese peninsula, and the interest of peace in Southeast Asia and the world.

We are gratified to note that the relations of fraternal friendship and close co-operation between the CPSU and the Viet Nam Workers' Party, between the peoples of our countries have been strengthened on the basis of respect for the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, thus contributing to the reinforcement of the unity and cohesion of the world socialist community and the international communist and workers' movement as a whole.

The Central Committee of the CPSU warmly wishes the fraternal Viet Nam Workers' Party and the entire Vietnamese people new successes in their socialist construction and their resistance against US aggression, for a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic and prosperous Viet Nam.

Long live the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the battle-seasoned vanguard of the Vietnamese People!

Long live the heroic Vietnamese people!

Long live the immortal teachings of Marx and Lenin!

Long live the unshakable militant solidarity and fraternal co-operation between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Viet Nam!

FROM THE CC OF THE CCP

(Continued from page 1)

might of the people's war, badly batter US imperialism — the most ferocious in the world, and win great victories in the war against US aggression and for national salvation, thus making a great and important contribution to the anti-imperialist struggle of the oppressed peoples and nations of the whole world.

The nature of US imperialism will never change and though it has suffered disastrous setbacks in its war of aggression in Viet Nam, it will never abandon of its free will its wild ambitions to occupy South Viet Nam by force. The Nixon administration is pushing up its counter-revolutionary dual tactics with redoubled efforts, making profuse professions of "peace" and playing the "troop withdrawal" trick on the one hand and doing its utmost to carry out so-called "de-Americanization" and "Vietnamization" of the Viet Nam war on the other, in order to hoodwink the peoples of the world and achieve its criminal objective of occupying South Viet Nam forever by force.

We believe that the heroic Vietnamese people who have a tradition of heroic revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and in compliance with President Ho Chi Minh's last wishes, expressed in his Testament, to be resolved to fight against the US aggressors till total victory, by persevering in their protracted war of resistance in maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in their own hands and in relying on their own efforts, will certainly be able to foil all the intrigues and plots of the reactionary forces which vainly attempt to sabotage Viet Nam's effort against US aggression and for national salvation, and will certainly be able to overcome all kinds of difficulties and barriers on their road of advance, and drive US imperialism out of the land of Viet Nam lock, stock and barrel, liberate the South, defend the North and then reunify the Motherland.

In the revolutionary struggle over a long period, the two Parties and two peoples of China and Viet Nam have been mutually supporting each other and sharing weal and woe. Every success won by the Vietnamese people in their anti-imperialist struggle is a powerful stimulus to China's revolutionary struggle. Fostered by Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the great leader of the Chinese people, and by President Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the Vietnamese people, the close fraternal friendship and militant unity between the two Parties and two peoples of China and Viet Nam can stand any test. "The 700 million Chinese people provide a powerful backing for the Vietnamese people. The vast expanse of China's territory is their reliable rear area." The Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people will follow this teaching of the great leader Chairman Mao's and resolutely support the Vietnamese people in their war against US aggression and for national salvation through to the end.

US imperialism will be defeated! Viet Nam will win!

Long live the close fraternal friendship and militant unity between the two Parties and two peoples of China and Viet Nam!

LIBRARY

MANY TARGETS UNDER PLAF FIRE ON FEB. 1

QUANG NGAI PROVINCE:

Puppet 6th Regiment CP and 4th Regiment base as well as other targets hit. A US company decimated at Van Hoa, near Son Tinh.

KONTUM PROVINCE:

A puppet company at Dak Pek wiped out in 40 minutes.

PLEIKU PROVINCE:

HQ of puppet 2nd Army Corps bombarded, many buildings gutted by fire.

PHU YEN PROVINCE:

A company of puppet regional troops knocked out near Tuy Hoa provincial capital.

TAY NINH PROVINCE:

Commando training centre at Ben Soi, west-south-west of provincial capital, stormed by PLAF men: 80 enemy casualties, 4 105 and 155 mm cannons, 27 buildings and 2 fuel depots destroyed or burnt down.

SAIGON:

On Jan. 30, PLAF men attacked a US billet in Saigon: several hundred US officers put out of action.

Thieu-Ky-Khiem Clique's Fascist Measures

ON February 9 last, Thieu brought to the military tribunal Tran Ngoc Chau and Huynh Van Tu, "MPs", under the charge of pro-communist activities, *HP* reported. A third one, Pham The Truc, now in France, was accused of the same offence.

The same source disclosed that that affair had been followed up by the Saigon press and political circles. Some papers affirmed that Tran Ngoc Chau had threatened to let out the secret activities he had been carrying out in conjunction with the CIA for several years.

The crack-down on his opponents has been taken by Nguyen Van Thieu after his speech on Dec. 9, 1969 at Vung Tau where he called these "deputies" over the coals. On Dec. 20, he sent his hirelings to ransack the "Lower House" and was castigated by the "MPs" for this.

On Dec. 23, he confiscated issues of the French papers *Express* and *Le Figaro* under the pretext that they had run "slanderous" stories.

On Dec. 25 and 29, he closed down 8 Saigon papers: *Chanh Dao* (Righteous Road), *Tieng Noi Dan Toc* (Voice of the Nation), *Song Con* (Survival), *Phu Nu Thoi Bao* (Women's Times), *Phu Nu Song* (Women's Life), *Phu Nu Moi* (New Women), *Tam Tinh* (Confidences), *Ngay Mai* (Morrow).

On Dec. 27, he threw in jail 15 leaders of the students' movement and banned the "Christmas Concert for Peace" planned by one thousand Saigon students.

On the same day, the police made a search at the house of Nguyen Thanh Vinh, an ex-"deputy" and secretary-general of a political group sponsored by Phan Khac Suu, erstwhile "President of the Republic". Vinh was also arrested.

The next day, Thieu arraigned before the military court 43 people including Huynh Van Trong, his former advisor for security and political affairs, Phan Nghi, a correspondent covering the Paris Conference, and Vu Ngoc Nha, a high-ranking official at the "Open Arms" Ministry.

Four weeks later, Jan. 24, 1970, he sentenced to five years' hard labour Mien Duc Thang, a composer, for his highly popular antiwar songs.

These fascist measures taken by the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique have incensed even American senators and William Fulbright, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee rightly commented on Feb. 5: "It appears that the real reason for Thieu's attack on Chau was not his contact with the communists but rather Chau's growing power as an opposition figure and as a critic of Thieu's attempts to pressure and corrupt the Assembly."

PLAF SIGNAL FEATS IN 1969

Feb. 23:

New wave of generalized offensives throughout South Viet Nam.

Feb. 23 — March 4:

PLAF attack 35 HQs and CPs, 38 airfields, 17 logistic complexes, about one hundred bases and positions in 38 provincial capitals and 100 urban centres.

45,000 enemy troops including 25,000 GIs and satellite mercenaries put out of action, 13 battalions and 60 companies wiped out or decimated, 450 planes and choppers downed or destroyed, 1,170 military vehicles and 250 ordnance pieces wrecked or damaged, 115 vessels and other military craft sunk or damaged, dozens of fuel and ammunition depots set on fire.

May 12-15:

PLAF fresh onsets against 400 military targets in 80 towns and urban centres, including 23 airfields, 33 bases or army corps, division or brigade HQs or regimental CPs; 15 battalions or battalion-size units knocked out or badly mauled.

May Battle-Count:

30 towns and about one hundred other urban centres stormed. 65,000 enemy troops disabled, including 30,000 GIs and mercenaries from satellite countries; 1,100 vehicles (620 tanks and armoured cars), 250 cannons and mortars destroyed, 600 aircraft downed or wrecked, 65 vessels or craft sunk or damaged.

August 11:

New wave of PLAF widespread actions against 200 enemy positions and military bases chiefly on Saigon, Da Nang and Hue fronts.

Sept. 5:

New PLAF assaults against 140 enemy bases and positions.

Battle-Count from Aug. 1 to Sept. 15:

PLAF hammer at the enemy in 40 towns and cities, US Army HQ, puppet Navy HQ and 60 division, brigade and regiment HQs and CPs, 30 airfields and many naval bases.

65,000 enemy troops (25,000 GIs and satellite mercenaries) put out of action, 715 aircraft downed or destroyed, 2,600 military vehicles(1,450 tanks and armoured cars) and 280 cannons and mortars wrecked or damaged, 170 war vessels and junks sunk or set afire.

Oct. 28:

Starting of the one-month campaign of Bu Dop — Bu Prang — Duc Lap (sector located between 135-200 km northeast of Saigon): 3,500 enemy troops including 200 GIs disabled, 76 aircraft downed, 63 military vehicles and about 30 cannons and mortars destroyed.

Nov. 6 and Following Days:

Fresh wave of onslaughts against 300 enemy posts and targets in Mekong Delta, chiefly Ben Tre, My Tho and Chau Doc provinces, 10,000 enemy casualties. The biggest success was won at Xeo Ro, Rach Gia province (night of Nov. 5): 700 casualties among puppet marines.

Nov 15-20:

PLAF storm Phuoc Long sector, northeast of Saigon: 1,200 enemy casualties (*First Cav.* hard hit), 18 choppers downed, 61 vehicles and 10 cannons and mortars destroyed.

Dec. 3:

3 provincial capitals including My Tho, and about 30 enemy bases and posts in Mekong Delta attacked.

1969 BATTLE-COUNT

— 650,000 enemy troops (250,000 GIs and satellite mercenaries) wiped out.

— 5 brigades, 1 regiment, 3 multi-battalion units, 900 companies and 130 "pacification" teams written off the musterroll or decimated.

— 6,400 airplanes and helicopters downed, damaged or destroyed on the ground, 19,000 vehicles (10,000 tanks and armoured cars) blasted out of commission or damaged, 2,500 cannons and mortars put out of use, 1,700 vessels or military junks sunk or damaged, 900 ammunition and fuel depots burnt down.

TET "Truce" Broken by US and Puppets

Feb. 4: Bombing and spraying of toxic chemicals on Binh Hanh Trung village, Cao Lanh district, and Thanh My village, My An district, Kien Phong province, Mekong Delta.

Feb 5: — At 10 a.m. 4 aircraft dropped 40 bombs on, and strafed, three hamlets in My Loc village, Tam Binh district, Vinh Long province, Mekong Delta. Shortly after, the enemy lobbed about one hundred shells on two other hamlets of the same village and afterwards looted the inhabitants.

— Puppet troops garrisoned at Quoc Ba post pillaged My Quy Tay village, Duc Hue district, Hau Nghia province, westnorthwest of Saigon. In the afternoon, the same village was airraided and at 6.30 p.m., it received about one hundred shells from enemy artillery.

— Bombing of the villages of Nhi Long, Binh Phu, My Cam, Phuong Thanh, Dai Phuoc, Cang Long district, Tra Vinh province, Mekong Delta, and periphery of the provincial capital.

— Bombing and napalming of Hon Dat and Hon Me, Tho Son village, Rach gia province, Mekong Delta.

8 *Index 12622 — Printed in Hanoi—Signed for printing on Feb. 14, 1970.*